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Subject: ALARACT 153/2007  
Originator: AOC CAT OPSWATCH G3 DAMO AOC(MC)  
DTG: 171457Z Jul 07  
Precedence: PRIORITY  
DAC: General  
To: ALARACT RELEASE AUTHORITY(UC)  
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P JUL 07  
FM PTC WASHINGTON DC//ALARACT//  
TO ALARACT  
ZEN/ADDRESS LISTS @ AL ALARACT (UC)  
BT  
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SUBJ: ALARACT 153/2007

THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN SENT BY THE PENTAGON  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CENTER ON BEHALF OF DA WASHINGTON  
DC//DAMO-TRL//

SUBJ: INTERIM GUIDANCE - ARMY MILD TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY  
(MTBI)/POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD) AWARENESS AND  
RESPONSE PROGRAM

REFERENCES:

- A. ACTING SECRETARY OF THE ARMY'S DIRECTION TO ESTABLISH A  
MTBI/PTSD AWARENESS AND RESPONSE PROGRAM, 15 MAY 2007.
  - B. HQDA ALARACT MESSAGE 153/2007, DTG 110730Z JUL 07, SUBJECT:  
ANNOUNCEMENT OF ARMY MILD TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (MTBI)/POST  
TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD) AWARENESS AND RESPONSE  
PROGRAM.
  - C. MEDCOM OPORD 07-77, DTG 111820Q JUL 07.
1. (U) ON 22 JUNE 2007, THE ACTING SECRETARY OF THE ARMY AND  
CHIEF OF STAFF, ARMY APPROVED THE ARMY MTBI/PTSD AWARENESS  
AND RESPONSE PROGRAM AND DIRECTED THAT IT BE IMPLEMENTED  
THROUGHOUT THE ARMY.
  2. (U) PURPOSE. THE PURPOSE OF THIS INTERIM GUIDANCE IS TO  
ESTABLISH IMMEDIATE ACTIONS FOR ALL ARMY ACTIVITIES TO FOLLOW

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IN ORDER TO PROVIDE LEADERS, SOLDIERS, AND FAMILY MEMBERS THE TOOLS THEY NEED TO EFFECTIVELY RESPOND TO INCIDENTS OF MTBI AND PTSD WHEN THEY OCCUR. THIS INTERIM GUIDANCE WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL THE NEXT REVISION OF AR 350-1 (ARMY TRAINING AND LEADER DEVELOPMENT) IS PUBLISHED IN FY2008.

3. (U) COMPONENTS. KEY COMPONENTS OF THE ARMY MTBI/PTSD AWARENESS AND RESPONSE PROGRAM INCLUDE AN UNDERSTANDING BY EVERY SOLDIER AND LEADER IN THE ARMY OF THE CAUSES, SYMPTOMS, AND TREATMENT AVAILABLE FOR MTBI AND PTSD.

4. (U) TRAINING PROGRAM. IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE KEY AWARENESS AND RESPONSE COMPONENTS OF THE ARMY PROGRAM CAN BEGIN IMMEDIATELY, THE ARMY HAS DEVELOPED A CHAIN TEACH TRAINING PROGRAM THAT WILL BE SUPPORTED BY TRAINING RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT THE ARMY KNOWLEDGE ON-LINE WEBSITE HOMEPAGE ([HTTPS://WWW.US.ARMY.MIL](https://www.us.army.mil)). THIS PROGRAM PROVIDES COMMANDERS WITH INSTRUCTIONS AND TRAINING MATERIAL REQUIRED TO PREPARE FOR AND CONDUCT ARMY MTBI/PTSD AWARENESS AND RESPONSE TRAINING. EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, ALL ARMY ACTIVITIES SHALL CONDUCT THIS TRAINING PROGRAM AND TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:

A. (U) NOT LATER THAN 18 OCTOBER 2007 COMPLETE INITIAL MTBI/PTSD AWARENESS TRAINING USING THE TRAINING RESOURCES PROVIDED ON THE WEBSITE ([HTTPS://WWW.US.ARMY.MIL](https://www.us.army.mil)). MTBI/PTSD AWARENESS AND RESPONSE TRAINING WILL BE CONDUCTED USING THE CHAIN-TEACHING TECHNIQUE (LEADERS TRAINING SUBORDINATES) IN SMALL GROUPS (PLATOON-SIZED AS A PLANNING FACTOR). THE CHAIN OF COMMAND SHOULD PERSONALLY CONDUCT THIS TRAINING AND ENSURE THESE SESSIONS ADDRESS: THE CONDITIONS THAT MAY CAUSE MTBI/PTSD, THE SYMPTOMS OF MTBI/PTSD, IDENTIFICATION OF RESOURCES, INFORMATION, AND TREATMENT AVAILABLE TO THE SOLDIERS AND FAMILY MEMBERS OF SOLDIERS WHO HAVE MTBI AND/OR PTSD. THERE IS NO SPECIFIC TIMELINE FOR THE DURATION OF TRAINING AS AN OPEN DIALOGUE IS ENCOURAGED. HOWEVER, FOR PLANNING, TRAINING USING THE SCRIPT AND POWERPOINT PRESENTATION SHOULD REQUIRE ONE HOUR.

B. (U) COMMANDERS WILL IMMEDIATELY INCLUDE MTBI/PTSD AWARENESS AND RESPONSE TRAINING AS PART OF ALL PRE-DEPLOYMENT AND RE-DEPLOYMENT BRIEFINGS ENSURING SOLDIERS AND LEADERS ARE AWARE OF THE RISKS, SYMPTOMS, AND RESPONSE PROCEDURES, LOCATION AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF RESPONSE AGENCIES.

C. (U) INSTALLATION MEDICAL TREATMENT FACILITIES WILL DESIGNATE AND ANNOUNCE A POINT OF CONTACT THAT WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ANSWER MEDICALLY RELATED QUESTIONS FROM UNIT LEADERS.

D. (U) INSTALLATION COMMANDERS WILL PUBLICIZE INSTALLATION LEVEL INFORMATION TO PROVIDE SOLDIERS, LEADERS, AND FAMILIES WITH CONTACT INFORMATION FOR ALL INSTALLATION LEVEL RESPONSE AND TREATMENT AGENCIES. THIS CONTACT INFORMATION WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED TO ALL INCOMING SOLDIERS DURING INSTALLATION IN-PROCESSING.

E. (U) ADDITIONAL TRAINING RESOURCES INTENDED FOR USE BY FAMILY READINESS GROUPS AND FAMILY MEMBERS WILL BE PROVIDED ON THE ARMY HOME PAGE ([WWW.ARMY.MIL](http://WWW.ARMY.MIL)) ON 18 JULY 2007. THESE RESOURCES ARE DIFFERENT FROM THE SOLDIER VERSION DDRESSED IN PARAGRAPH 4.A., ABOVE. WHENEVER POSSIBLE MTBI/PTSD TRAINING FOR FAMILY READINESS GROUPS AND FAMILY MEMBERS SHOULD BE CONDUCTED BY ARMY LEADERS.

5. (U) HQDA WILL DETERMINE SUSTAINMENT TRAINING REQUIREMENTS AND PUBLISH THEM IN SEPARATE CORRESPONDENCE.

6. (U) THE ARMY WILL CARE FOR SOLDIERS AND FAMILIES OF SOLDIERS DIAGNOSED WITH MTBI/PTSD WITH DIGNITY, FAIRNESS, AND RESPECT. COMMANDERS WILL ADDRESS EVERY MTBI/PTSD INCIDENT SERIOUSLY AND PROVIDE SOLDIERS ACCESS TO MEDICAL CARE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOLLOWING TRAUMATIC EVENTS OR IDENTIFICATION OF SYMPTOMS. COMMANDERS WILL CAREFULLY CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS OF MEDICAL AUTHORITIES AS TO THE DISPOSITION OF SOLDIERS UNDER TREATMENT.

7. (U) LEADERS WILL REFER SOLDIERS EXPERIENCING SYMPTOMS OF MTBI/PTSD OR WHO HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT POTENTIAL PAST EXPOSURE TO AN MTBI/PTSD EVENT, TO THEIR LOCAL MEDICAL TREATMENT FACILITY.

8. (U) REPORTING PROCEDURES.

A. (U) UNITS WILL DOCUMENT COMPLETION OF TRAINING IN EACH SOLDIER'S INDIVIDUAL TRAINING RECORDS USING DTMS OR MANUAL ENTRY.

B. (U) ARMY COMMANDS, DIRECTOR ARMY NATIONAL GUARD, ARMY STAFF, ARMY SERVICE COMPONENT COMMANDS, AND DIRECT

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REPORTING UNITS WILL REPORT COMPLETION OF MTBI/PTSD CHAIN TEACHING VIA RECORD TRAFFIC TO THE ARMY OPERATIONS CENTER, ATTN: DAMO-TRL NLT 19 OCTOBER 2007.

C. (U) POC FOR REPORTING AND TRACKING COMPLIANCE OF TRAINING IS ARMY AOC/CAT TRAINING AT COMM (703) 697-2696 OR UUAATR@HQDA-AOC.ARMY.PENTAGON.MIL

9. (U) DOWNLOAD INSTRUCTIONS.

A. (U) HYPERLINKS TO THE FACILITATOR'S GUIDE AND THE DOWNLOAD INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SOLDIER VERSION OF THE TRAINING PRESENTATION ARE IN THE MESSAGE ANNOUNCING THE MTBI/PTSD TRAINING REQUIREMENT ON THE ARMY KNOWLEDGE ON-LINE WEBSITE HOMEPAGE ([HTTPS://WWW.US.ARMY.MIL](https://www.us.army.mil)).

B. (U) THE FAMILY READINESS GROUP TRAINING RESOURCES CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM THE RSS LINK AT THE ARMY HOME PAGE ([WWW.ARMY.MIL](http://WWW.ARMY.MIL)). THE SAME MATERIAL CAN ALSO BE PRESENTED USING STREAMING VIDEO DIRECTLY FROM THE AUDIO/VIDEO LINK AT THE ARMY HOME PAGE.

10. (U) INSTRUCTORS WILL REVIEW THE SCRIPT AND POWERPOINT PRESENTATION BEFORE CONDUCTING TRAINING IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE THE BENEFIT TO SOLDIERS.

11. (U) QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS ALARACT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO ARMY G-3/5/7 POC, LTC DAVID HARPER COMM (703) 614-9733 OR DAVID.HARPER@HQDA.ARMY.MIL.

12. (U) FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS REGARDING THE CONTENT OF THE MTBI/PTSD PRESENTATION CONTACT THE MEDCOM POC, MAJ EDWARD BRUSHER DSN 471-6499 OR EDWARD.BRUSHER@AMEDD.ARMY.MIL. ADDITIONAL MEDCOM POC IS COL ELSPETH RITCHIE, DIRECTOR, PROPONENCY OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH/ PSYCHIATRY CONSULTANT TO THE US ARMY SURGEON GENERAL, DSN 761-1975 OR ELSPETH.RITCHIE@AMEDD.ARMY.MIL.

13. (U) EXPIRATION DATE CANNOT BE DETERMINED.

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